Courts on 28th August, 1986. Action is being taken to lay copies of these reports on the Table of Parliament. Thereafter, an indepth study of these reports will be made and a decision will be taken as to whether, and if so on what lines, the recommendations contained therein are to be implemented by Legislation.

Setting up of Technology bank

1303. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether small scale industries associations have urged the Central Government to set up technology bank for the transfer of appropriate technology-both imported and indigenous; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) A technology development cell, which will also work as a technology bank as desired by small scale associations, has been recommended by a Committee appointed by the Government. The shape, content and coverage of the cell have not been finalised.

Sick Industrial Units

1304. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick industrial units in medium and other sectors of industries in the country during the period 1983, 1984, 1985 and so far in 1986;

(b) the reasons for increase in sick units, if any; and

(c) the steps taken to check the units from becoming sick?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNCHACHALAM): (a) The data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The latest sector-wise data as available from it, for the period ending June 1985 are given hereunder:

Period ending	Large scale Units	Medium Units	SSI Units
December, 1983	491	1256	78363
December, 1984	545	1287	91450
June, 1985	597	1181	97890

(b) A number of reasons, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible for idustrial sickness in the country. Some of the principal reasons are faulty planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery poor industrial, relations, inadequacy of demand, shortage of raw materials and their inputs and infrastructural constraints.

(c) Government have issued certain policy guidelines for guidance of various Central Ministries, State Governments and Banks and Financial Institutions in October, 1981 for the revival and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units. The salient features of these guidelines were furnished in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 700 on 15.7.1982. The banks and financial institutions prepare rehabilitation schemes on the basis of diagnostic studies providing *inter-alia*, for re-